

**Claims**

1. In a liquid vaporizer of the type comprising a fluid reservoir containing a liquid to be vaporized and an angled, circumferentially oriented heating element, the liquid which is transported from the fluid reservoir by an exposed wick material, improved wherein, the wick material is selectively positioned proximate to, but not extending completely through the angled, circumferentially oriented heating element.

2. The improved vaporizer of claim 1, wherein said effective operation zone is determined by the distance between the upper most portion of the heating element and the uppermost portion of the wick material, and wherein said distance is in the order of about 1.0 cm to about 2.0 cm.

3. The improved vaporizer of claim 2, wherein said distance is about 1.5cm to about 2.0 cm.

4. The improved vaporizer of claim 3, wherein the temperature in said effective operation zone is higher than the temperature outside of said effective operation zone.

5. The improved vaporizer of claim 1, wherein the wick material does not have a sheath.

6. The improved vaporizer of claim 1, wherein the wick material is a porous plastic material.

7. The improved vaporizer of claim 1, wherein the wick material is a graphite material.

8. The improved vaporizer of claim 1, wherein the liquid is vaporized at a substantially uniform rate from about 0.5g to about 7g per week.

9. The improved vaporizer of claim 8, wherein the liquid is vaporized at a substantially uniform rate from about 5g.